

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the amendment filed 7/7/2009. Claim 34 has been cancelled. Claims 1-33 and 35-37 are currently pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 4/14/2009 has been considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 18, line 1, "Starting unit A starting unit" has been changed to - -A starting unit- - to correct an obvious typographical error.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-33 and 35-37 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose or render obvious a starting unit wherein said hydrodynamic clutch is free of a guide wheel; whereby the position of the pressure

Art Unit: 3655

medium actuated integrated mechanical components relative to the working compartment is a function of differential pressure between pressure medium diverted from the inlet channel or the working fluid guide channel or chamber and pressure in the interior of the housing in the area of the clutch actuation system, in combination with the other elements required by independent claim 18.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EDWIN A. YOUNG whose telephone number is (571)272-4781. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Le can be reached on 571-272-7092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3655

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/E. A. Y./
Examiner, Art Unit 3655

/Sherry L Estremsky/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3655